All dollar amounts in thousands

Activity: Special Programs

Program Components Program Elements	2004 Actual	2005 Estimate	2006 Uncontr/ Related Changes	2006 Program Changes (+/-)	2006 Budget Request	Change From 2005 (+/-)
Emergency and Unscheduled Projects:						
Emergency and Unscheduled Projects	3,951	2,465	0	0	2,465	0
Seismic Safety Program	1,481	1,479	0	0	1,479	0
Housing Improvement Program	7,901	7,889	0	0	7,889	0
Dam Safety and Security Program	2,667	2,662	0	0	2,662	0
Equipment Replacement Program:						
Replacement of Park Ops. Equipment	14,156	13,387	0	0	13,387	0
Narrowband Radio Systems Program	20,392	22,527	0	-10,000	12,527	-10,000
Modernization of ADP Equipment	475	986	0	0	986	0
Total Requirements	**51,023**	**51,395**	**0**	**-10,000**	**41,395**	**-10,000**

Authorization

16 U.S.C. 1	The National Park Service Organic Act
Public Law 101-614	The Earthquake Hazards Reduction Act of 1977
Public Law 104-333, Section 814	The National Park Service Housing Improvement
Public Law 104-303, Section 215	The National Dam Safety and Security Program Act of 2002

Mission Overview

Special Planning contributes to the National Park Service's mission, and the Department of the Interior's mission in three primary mission goal areas: 1) Natural and cultural resources and associated values are protected, restored, and maintained in good condition and managed within their broader ecosystem and cultural context, 2) Visitors safely enjoy and are satisfied with the availability, accessibility, diversity, and quality of park facilities, services, and appropriation recreational opportunities, and 3) The National park Service uses current management practices, systems, and technologies to accomplish its mission. Special Programs also supports Department of the Interior goals PEO 1 (Resource Protection) Improve Health of Watersheds, Landscapes and Marine Resource; PEO 3 (Resource Protection) Protect Cultural and Natural Resources, and REO 1 (Recreation) Provide for quality recreation experience.

Activity Overview

Activities provide for the performance of minor unscheduled and emergency construction projects, improvement of public use buildings to withstand seismic disturbances and damage, inspection, repair or deactivation of dams, repair of park employee housing, ensure adequate inventories of automated and motorized equipment, upgrade radio communications equipment and the improvement of information management capabilities.

Emergency and Unscheduled Projects
To perform minor unscheduled and emergency construction projects to protect and preserve park resources, provide for safe and uninterrupted visitor use of facilities, accommodate unanticipated concessioner facility related needs, provide necessary infrastructure for approved concessioner expansion projects, and ensure continuity of support and service operations.

Seismic Safety
Improve the capability of public use buildings to withstand seismic disturbances and resulting damage.

Dam Safety and Security
Inspect and repair dams, or deactivate dams to protect lives and park resources.

Housing Improvement
Repair the more seriously deficient park employee housing units, and replace others where needed.

Equipment Replacement
Ensure adequate inventories of automated and motorized equipment to support park operations and visitor services throughout the National Park System are purchased to replace existing inventories that have met use and age limitations. Ensure that adequate inventories of new equipment are purchased for units recently added to the National Park System so that park operations and resource protection can begin unimpeded.

Narrowband Radio Systems
Upgrade radio communications equipment to ensure rapid response to emergency and life-threatening situations as they arise.

Modernization of ADP Equipment
Improve the information management resource capabilities of the Service to ensure timely processing of data and intra-office telecommunications into the 21st century.

Activity: **Special Programs**
Program Component: **Emergency and Unscheduled Projects; Seismic Safety**

FY 2006 Program Overview

The Emergency and Unscheduled Projects; Seismic Safety program component allows for the execution of emergency work on all types of national park unit facilities, as well as providing for studies and implementation of design changes to buildings potentially affected by seismic activity.

This program is composed of two major components as described below.

Emergency and Unscheduled Projects: $2.465 million
The FY 2005 proposal reflects a manageable realistic program effort of $2.465 million to address emergency and unscheduled needs. The National Park System contains over 30,000 structures and thousands of individual utility systems. Through the course of normal operations, these structures and systems can unexpectedly be damaged or fail, and require immediate attention to avoid more costly reconstruction in the future. Such work may require more than one fiscal year for project completion, but generally will not involve extensive planning or formal contract bidding procedures characteristic of line item construction. An example of the type of emergency projects funded from this program is the repair or replacement of potable water and wastewater treatment facilities damaged through fires, floods, mechanical breakdowns, and other unforeseen incidents.

Seismic Safety of National Park System Buildings: $1.479 million
The National Park Service Seismic Safety Program is mandated by Public Law 101-614, Earthquake Hazards Reduction Act of 1977, National Earthquake Hazards Reduction Program Reauthorization Act of 1990, Executive Order 12699, Executive Order 12941, and NPS Directive 93-1. These mandates, along with related technical guidelines produced by the Interagency Committee on Seismic Safety in Construction and the Federal Emergency Management Agency, requires the NPS to adopt minimum standards of seismic safety in existing Federally-owned and leased buildings, and to apply appropriate seismic safety standards to new construction. Each agency has a seismic safety coordinator and works with the Department of the Interior Seismic Safety Program and the Department of the Interior Office of Managing Risk and Public Safety to evaluate, prioritize, and rehabilitate their inventory of extremely high risk (EHR), seismically deficient buildings. Information on the NPS seismic safety activities is provided annually to the

Department of the Interior and biennially to the Federal Emergency Management Agency for inclusion into the National Earthquake Hazards Reduction Program Report to Congress.

The National Park Service continues to perform seismic studies, investigations, designs, and rehabilitation on public use buildings throughout the National Park System. Each bureau has developed a five-year plan to mitigate their inventory of EHR buildings. Because of the large number of EHR buildings in the NPS inventory (over 400), the NPS mitigation efforts will extend beyond the 5-year plan proposed by the other DOI bureaus. The Service is working with the Department and the NPS regions and parks to prioritize the list of EHR buildings for seismic rehabilitation based on guidance and information from the Department of the Interior and Federal Emergency Management Agency. The goal of the program is to protect the parks' cultural resources and protect the public and NPS staff in the event of a seismic occurrence. Mitigation of all seismic deficiencies for both historic and non-historic buildings will be accomplished to meet current seismic building code requirements.

For FY 2006, seismic safety evaluations, assessments, schematic design, design, construction documents, and/or construction work will be performed on the following:

- Hawaii Volcanoes NP – Seismic rehabilitation of the Volcano House Hotel ($1,000,000).
- Yellowstone NP – Seismic rehabilitation of the Mammoth Visitor Center and Museum ($500,000).

Remainder of the program:
- Detailed seismic investigations will be conducted at the following high seismic zone parks – Golden Gate NRA, Cabrillo NM, Hawaii Volcanoes NP, Channel Islands NP, National Park of American Samoa, Yellowstone NP, Grand Teton NP, Death Valley NP, and Virgin Islands NP.
- Detailed seismic studies and investigations will continue in parks located in both high and moderate seismic zone locations.
- The NPS will expand the program to include National Park System areas that have been upgraded to high and moderate seismic hazard zones by the recently released USGS Seismic Hazard Maps. The program will start to collect building inventory information on low seismic zone parks located adjacent to high and moderate zone boundaries.

FY 2004 Program Performance Accomplishments

The National Park Service completed the following seismic safety activities in FY 2004:
- Eugene O'Neill National Historic Site – A $450,000 seismic rehabilitation has been completed on the Tao House, a national historic landmark. Close out paperwork and warranty issues were addressed and completed.
- San Francisco Maritime National Historical Park - A $55,000 seismic rehabilitation has been completed on Building 169, a building that is being used for storage of archeological artifacts.
- A $2.5 million seismic rehabilitation construction project continues on the William Penn Mott, Jr. Visitor Center (Presidio Building 102) at Golden Gate NRA. This project was stalled due to contractual and budgetary issues. The Presidio Trust will be managing the project and issuing the construction contract under a partnership and interagency agreement.
- A $575,000 seismic rehabilitation construction project continues on the historic St. Joseph Hall Building at Salem Maritime NHS. The building has a multipurpose function housing administrative offices, maintenance storage and operations, along with a visitor interpretive center and educational programs. Final inspection is to take place and the building will be back in operation in calendar year 2005.
- Seismic rehabilitation for the Horace Albright Training Center and Apartment Buildings at Grand Canyon NP is under construction. The seismic portion of the work is $318,000.
- A $200,000 construction seismic rehabilitation project has been awarded and continues on the Scorpion Ranch House at Channel Islands NP.
- Olympic NP - Three buildings were identified as needing seismic rehabilitation after the February 28, 2001 Nisqually Earthquake. Design has been completed and a $138,000 construction project has been awarded.
- A $350,000 seismic rehabilitation project was awarded for the Wawona Hotel in Yosemite NP.

Detailed seismic evaluations were conducted on the following facilities:

- Stone House #20 at Crater Lake NP.
- Mammoth Visitor Center and Museum at Yellowstone NP.
- Lake Hotel at Yellowstone NP.
- Fort Mason Tunnel at Golden Gate NRA.
- Park Headquarters Building 201 at Golden Gate NRA.

The NPS has participated as a voting member on the development of the new American Society of Civil Engineers Standard ASCE 31-03 for the Seismic Evaluation of Existing Buildings and contributed to the development of the Federal Emergency Management Agency Handbook FEMA 154 for the Rapid Visual Screening of Buildings for Potential Seismic Hazards.

Other work includes answering questions and providing assistance to parks and regions on seismic related issues and review of projects containing a seismic mitigation component.

FY 2005 Planned Program Performance

For FY 2005, seismic safety evaluations, assessments, schematic design, design, construction documents, and/or construction work is planned for the following:

- Yosemite NP – Seismic Rehabilitation of the Rangers' Club ($300,000).
- Smugglers Ranch House Seismic Rehabilitation at Channel Islands NP ($100,000).
- Seismic Rehabilitation of the Historic Building Foundations for 18 Buildings at Fort Cronkhite, Golden Gate NRA ($1,500,000).
- Death Valley NP – Seismic Rehabilitation of Building 48 Resource Office ($75,000).

Remainder of the program:

- Detailed seismic investigations will be conducted at the following high seismic zone parks – Golden Gate NRA, Cabrillo NM, Hawaii Volcanoes NP, Channel Islands NP, National Park of American Samoa, Yellowstone NP, Grand Teton NP, Redwood NP and Yosemite NP.
- Follow-up work will be conducted in the south central Alaska parks resulting from the Magnitude 7.9 Earthquake of November 2002. Seismic safety assessments will be conducted at the Kennecott Mill Building in Wrangell St. Elias NP and Preserve for the safety of continued concession tour operations.
- Detailed seismic studies and investigations will continue in parks located in both high and moderate seismic zone locations.
- The NPS will expand the program to include National Park System areas that have been upgraded to high and moderate seismic hazard zones by the recently released USGS Seismic Hazard Maps. The program will start to collect building inventory information on low seismic zone parks located adjacent to high and moderate zone boundaries.

Activity: **Special Programs**
Program Component: **Housing Improvement Program**

FY 2006 Base Program Overview

The Housing Improvement Program component repairs employee housing at parks and replaces obsolete units in order to provide for adequate and appropriate housing needs at each unit. This involves in-depth studies and evaluations, including cost-benefit analysis and external benchmarking research. Additionally, the program component provides for ongoing improvement in housing inventory and assessment.

The FY 2006 funding request of $7.889 million for the Housing Improvement Program will be used to repair the more seriously deficient park employee housing units and replace those that are obsolete. The funding will allow the NPS to continue toward the goal of bringing any necessary housing to a good condition and to sustain that housing over time. The NPS has developed a Servicewide five-year plan for improving housing stock in park areas where housing conditions exist that are less than good. Funding criteria and guidelines

are used to prioritize all projects to ensure that the NPS is directing available funding to the greatest need for repair, rehabilitation, replacement, or construction. The NPS is utilizing standardized business practices as part of total asset management for housing inventory. Key issues are being addressed universally, that have not been addressed before. Through the Asset Management Process, the NPS will now know what housing units are in the inventory, as well as the condition of those housing units, the current replacement value of each unit, the requirements to properly sustain the unit over time, and the priority of each asset based on the Asset Priority Index (API). By having this data, the NPS will be better equipped to determine where to focus the available resources.

Park housing is a mission-essential management tool used to effectively and efficiently protect park resources, property, and visitors, and it involves a long-term commitment. Condition assessments, replacement of trailers and obsolete housing, housing rehabilitation, and removal of excess housing must continue. Park managers will use data received from inspections to develop cost-benefit analyses to determine fiscally responsible housing decisions. Where replacement housing is needed, the NPS will determine the proper mix of housing and examine the possibility of larger projects being identified for line-item construction. For example, Yellowstone NP, Grand Canyon NP, and Grand Teton NP all have credible and verifiable housing needs that will require long-term planning efforts beyond the funding capabilities of the Housing Improvement Program.

In conformance with applicable benchmarks identified in the *National Performance Review*, the NPS is taking additional steps to ensure the cost-effectiveness of the replacement housing that will be constructed:

1. The NPS will continue utilization of multi-unit dwellings and de-emphasize single-family units.
2. The use of standard designs and specifications will reduce overall design costs and meet modular homebuilders' specifications, thereby allowing that sector of the housing industry to competitively bid on projects.
3. All housing construction projects will be consistent with funding guidelines and funding criteria and will undergo a value analysis, including a functional analysis to help determine the most appropriate number, type, and design.
4. Any exceptions to the above will be reviewed by the Servicewide Development Advisory Board (DAB). The Director will approve all projects.
5. All housing projects will be subject to the Housing Cost Model as recommended by the National Academy of Public Administration (NAPA). Any project exceeding the cost predicted by the cost model will be reviewed and approved by the Director prior to construction or revised as necessary to meet the cost predicted by the model.
6. The NPS will seek prior approval from the House and Senate Appropriations Committees before constructing any new housing capacity in national park units, including housing that may be provided as a result of public/private partnerships.

At the direction of the Department and the Office of Management and Budget, the NPS continues to work on a plan that will (1) measure the total cost of ownership of employee housing, (2) compare those costs with rental revenue, and (3) develop alternatives to close the gap between revenue and total cost of ownership.

In 2002, the NPS obtained consultant services to explore the feasibility of including public/private partnerships in assisting the NPS with employee housing. The consultant's preliminary findings showed that privatization through public-private ventures was not the best strategy for the NPS as a whole. However, because of potential partnership possibilities at Grand Canyon NP, further study is being conducted; initial findings will be available in the spring of 2005.

Recognizing that the full cost of providing housing is a prerequisite for any cost comparison of feasible options, the NPS is developing a housing module in the Facility Management Software System (FMSS) that will contain all housing and housing related data. The intent is to capture full life cycle costs for housing and determine the delta between the cost to provide housing and the rent collected. Rocky Mountain NP has been designated as a pilot park and systems testing is currently underway. Currently, rental rates are limited

by OMB and have been a factor in engaging the private sector as an alternative to maintain a large inventory with insufficient rental income to cover full costs. Once the NPS has a reasonable measure of the full cost of providing housing and knows the delta between that cost and the rent collected, the NPS will continue working on alternatives to close the gap between revenue and costs to the extent possible. The findings of the Grand Canyon NP privatization effort will possibly be a viable alternative at some parks. Other alternatives could include leasing from the private sector and leasing park housing during non-peak times to the private sector. However, insufficient rental rates continue to be identified as the single most limiting issue that impairs the ability to successfully develop and implement alternatives.

FY 2004 Program Performance Accomplishments

Through FY 2004, the NPS utilized the Housing Facility Condition Index (HCI) method to determine the percentage of improvement to separate NPS housing unit categories. Thirteen percent of employee housing assets were reclassified as being in better than fair condition (excellent and good) after FY 2004 rehabilitation and improvement work, and eighty-five percent of the housing inventory was improved when including units in fair or worse condition.

Beginning in FY 2005, the method to determine improvement to the inventory as a whole without regarding to current condition categories will be measured only by the Facilities Condition Index (FCI). This method will make housing reporting consistent with all other asset types in the NPS.

In FY 2004:

- 47 rehabilitation projects were funded at 21 park areas; 14 housing units were improved from poor to good; 25 units improved from fair to good; 1 unit improved from poor to fair and; 7 units remained in the same condition as rehabilitation addressed immediate safety needs and correction of health hazards. All of these projects extended the useful life of the asset, reduced the deferred maintenance, and eliminated the future replacement costs of the asset.
- 5 replacement projects in 4 park areas were funded, in turn replacing a total of 14 trailers and 1 tent cabin.
- Yosemite NP removed 5 excess housing units which had become cost prohibitive to maintain due to substandard construction and non-compliance to construction codes. These units were determined to be low priority assets to the park and non mission related.
- The picture is FY 2004 rehabilitation project at Grand Canyon NP: This housing unit is a high priority because it is a historic structure and critical in continuing the integrity of the Grand Canyon Landmark Historic Village. The rehabilitation work improved the condition of the unit from poor to good and will help future preservation of the structure.

All dollar amounts in thousands

FY 2005 Planned Program Performance

Housing Facility Condition Index	2004 Actual	2005 Plan	2005 Plan versus 2004 actual
Ratio of Housing assets' estimated deferred maintenance costs to current estimated replacement value	0.21	0.20	9.5% improvement

Note: The FY2004 FCI is based on initial condition assessment data. Analysis for the FCI modeling below for FY 2005 Planned Program Performance was based on a $10M funding level that included a mixture of fund sources, comprised of housing improvement appropriated dollars, line-item and repair/rehab funds. Future analysis on program performance will be based on actual FCI data.

NPS prioritized 50 housing improvement projects for funding in FY 2005 that, when completed, will extend the useful life of the assets, provide a safer and sanitary living environment for employees and families, and protect the resource.

In addition for FY 2005:

- Based on a Servicewide five-year Housing Improvement Plan the NPS will fund 37 rehabilitation projects in 22 park areas. These rehabilitation projects will result in the condition improvement of 2 units from fair to excellent; 13 units from fair to good; 16 units from poor to good; 2 units from poor to excellent; and 2 units from poor to fair. In addition 2 units will be rehabilitated to extend the useful life of the asset, but condition will remain the same to address immediate health and safety issues.
- Based on a Servicewide five-year Housing Improvement Plan, the NPS will provide funding for 6 replacement projects in 5 park areas. Funding will be provided for construction and project supervision of these 6 projects that will replace 11 obsolete units—10 trailers and 1 houseboat—at Isle Royale NP. The replacement and removal project at Isle Royale NP is replacing two units with one and will have less of an impact to the island resources.
- Funding will be provided for planning and design of 4 replacement projects in 4 park areas.
- Funding will be provided for 2 housing removal projects in North Cascades NP.

The ongoing operational effort to evaluate the condition of housing stock will continue in FY 2006 as a part of the NPS's larger efforts to improve asset management. Full life-cycle costs will become more apparent as the NPS moves toward condition assessments of all facilities, including the housing inventory, and as the parks fully implement FMSS. The FY 2006 request for the rehabilitation of existing housing structures and trailer/obsolete housing replacement is part of the Administration's plan to reduce the NPS infrastructure backlog needs. Following the five-year Housing Improvement Plan, in FY 2006, NPS will focus available housing improvement funds on 23 rehabilitation projects at 11 park areas, 14 trailer/obsolete replacement projects in 8 park areas and 1 removal project at Lake Mead NP.

Unobligated Balances—In response to concerns raised by OMB and others regarding the growing unobligated carryover balances reported in the housing program, the Service reviewed it's internal processes over the last two years and has aggressively implemented new strategies to insure projects are being implemented in a more timely fashion and funds utilized more efficiently. At the close of FY 2002, the unobligated carryover was over $20 million; at the close of FY 2003 it stood at $13 million and at the close of FY 2004 stood at $8 million. Additional significant improvements are expected to occur during FY 2005.

Military Cost Model—The NPS began using the model following the 1998 NAPA Report on the construction program. Now that we have actual data, the NPS has been working with the National Association of Home Builders (NAHB) to refine the model to reflect more accurately the factors applied to NPS locations.

Housing partnership at Grand Portage NM—Housing Improvement funds have been used to offset the lease term agreement with Grand Portage NM and the Grand Portage Band of Minnesota Chippewa. The partnership is working well for Grand Portage NM and Isle Royale NP in providing seasonal employee hous-

All dollar amounts in thousands

ing. The units being leased in lieu of construction provide a significant savings to the government and continue to reaffirm an important partnership between the park and the Band.

Proposed Partnership at Big Bend NP—Big Bend NP is working with their principal concessionaire, Forever Resorts and the Big Bend Natural History Association to construct a 10-unit complex outside the park with a guarantee that six of the units would be leased by the NPS in accordance with the authority granted under P.L. 104-333, thereby reducing the number of housing units the park would otherwise construct within the park boundary.

Activity: **Special Programs**
Program Component: **Dam Safety and Security Program**

FY2006 Base Program Overview

Through minor corrective actions (e.g., repair outlet works), and working in partnership with the Bureau of Land Management, the Dam Safety and Security program component provides a critical element of the National Park Service's role in ensuring adequate function of dams under agency management. Additionally, through safety inspections, research studies, and general monitoring, dams that are candidates for deactivation are also identified.

The NPS Dam Safety Program is mandated by Public Law 104-303, Section 215, National Dam Safety and Security Program Act of 2002; U.S. Department of the Interior Departmental Manual, Part 753, Dam Safety Program; and the NPS Management Policies, 2001. The program is coordinated with the assistance of the Bureau of Reclamation (Reclamation). The primary reason for creating this program was to prevent another incident like the Rocky Mountain NP Lawn Lake Dam Failure of 1982 when three park visitors were killed and $30 million in damages occurred. Because of Reclamation's expertise and oversight of the Department of the Interior Maintenance, Operation, and Safety Dams Program, the NPS has regularly used their services and advice in managing NPS dams and monitoring non-NPS structures affecting the National Park System. The program is necessary because of increased activity and development around, and downstream of, these dams.

The basic goal of the NPS Dam Safety Program is to either adequately maintain dams or deactivate them. While minor corrective actions are done using ONPS funds, this program annually addresses two to three major safety repairs/modifications on dams classified as having Downstream High or Significant Hazard Potential. To-date from all fund sources, approximately 229 dams have had corrective action completed, including deactivating 182 structures. For FY 2004, there were 5 repair actions conducted and 1 deactivation. It is estimated that 10 projects will be completed in FY 2005. There are an estimated 527 operational dams in the National Park Service ranging from major structures supporting large lakes to small weirs that support ponds. Current information is that 105 are in good condition, 188 are in fair condition, 168 are in poor condition, and 66 do not yet have a condition assessment. Formal dam safety inspections are performed every three years by the Reclamation for the larger, more critical dams. Parks are responsible for ensuring that the Annual Informal Inspections Reports are completed for all dams and recommended maintenance is carried out.

Dams Slated for Corrective Action, FY 2006

Park	State	Dam and Proposed Action	Amount ($million)
Cuyahoga Valley NP 2004 DOI Dam Rating 112	Ohio	Virginia Kendall Lake Dam – Provide overtopping protection & embankment modification – Ph 2 of 2.	1.321

All dollar amounts in thousands

Park	State	Dam and Proposed Action	Amount ($million)
Chickasaw NRA 2004 DOI Dam Rating: 115	Oklahoma	Veterans Dam – Replace spillway crest, remove vegetation covering dam, repair embankment & establish sod cover, repair historic flumes & install seepage control - Ph 2 of 2.	1.090
Prince William Forest Park 2004 DOI Dam Rating: 100	Virginia	Camp 4 Dam - Develop access road, remove vegetation from earth embankment & repair, establish sod cover on embankment, repair outlet works, & install seepage control.	0.251

FY2004 Program Performance Accomplishments

The following dam safety actions were accomplished:

- Yosemite NP, CA: Cascade Dam Deactivation and adjoining roadway stabilization. The removal of this dam and adjoining roadway stabilization was completed in June of 2004, with revegetation work and channel stability monitoring continued thru September 2004.
- Yosemite NP, CA: Happy Isles Dam Removal and Ecological Restoration. The project environmental research, documentation, and removal design was completed in the fall of 2004.
- Whiskeytown NRA, CA: A-Frame Dam Deactivation and Landscaping. The removal of the dam and several logging roads in the dam removal area was completed in October 2003.
- Cuyahoga Valley NP, OH: Virginia Kendall Dam Emergency Repairs. Because of a July 2003 flood, this dam overtopped. Safety repairs were made to the primary outlet works and maintenance walkway and grading and seeding repairs were made to the embankment.
- Rock Creek Park, DC: Pierce Mill Dam Alterations and Repairs. Project is part of the Woodrow Wilson Bridge Mitigation Project and is funded from it.
- Colonial NHP, VA: Wormley Pond Dam. Repairs completed because of 1999 flood overtopping.
- Lowell NHP, MA: Swamp Navigation Lock and Gatehouse and Dam. Restoration completed.
- Delaware Water Gap NRA, NJ: Columbia Fish Pond. Emergency deactivation because of severe seepage through dam. Deactivated failing Columbia Fish Pond Dam.
- Harpers Ferry NHP, WV: Dam No 3 Remnant. Ongoing program of cutting rebar which becomes exposed further upon continued deterioration of dam. Exposed rebar. The objective of this project consisted of removing approximately 500 pieces of rusty protruding iron reinforcement rods from the existing breached sections of Dam #3 in the Potomac River which snags boats and causes injuries to visitors.

FY2005 Planned Program Performance

The following safety modifications are planned:

- Yosemite NP, CA: Cascade Dam. Deactivation and adjoining roadway stabilization. Revegetation along roadway and river channel stability research and monitoring continuing through FY 2005.
- Yosemite NP, CA: Happy Isles Dam Removal and Ecological Restoration. Park crews began removal of this dam in October of 2004 (removal was halted due to the high flows on the Merced River) with an anticipated completion date of September, 2005. Ecological restoration to commence after removal is complete.
- Cuyahoga Valley NP, OH: Virginia Kendall Dam Safety Modifications. Provide overtopping protection and embankment modification.
- Prince William Forest Park, VA: Camp 4 Dam safety repairs. Design underway and construction is planned to begin FY2006.

- Blue Ridge Parkway, VA: Peaks of Otter, Mabry Mill, and Otter Lake Dam Safety Repairs. Modify Peaks of Otter Dam for overtopping protection. Replace outlet works at Mabry Mill Dam and correct severe leakage at Otter Lake Dam.

Activity: **Special Programs**
Program Component: **Equipment Replacement Program**

FY 2006 Base Program Overview

By studying and regularly replacing outdated, underutilized, or insufficient equipment, the Equipment Replacement program component provides for a systematic, organized methodology for ensuring the efficiency and safety of the National Park Service's pool of equipment. One of the key areas of this program component is fleet management, where through efficiency analysis, the Service is working to reduce operational costs of its vehicle fleet.

This program is comprised of three principal components as described below.

Replacement of Park Operations Equipment: $13.387 million
The National Park System has grown by more than 47 new units since 1990. These new areas must be equipped adequately to carry out basic park operations including maintenance, resource protection, and law enforcement functions. Older areas with aging inventories must have sufficient funding to replace equipment to ensure safe and efficient park operations.

Daily park operations are dependent on various types of vehicles, vessels and other support equipment. The park service fleet ranges from sedans and pick-ups to marine vessels, emergency response vehicles and heavy construction equipment.

In 2004, the Department and the bureaus began a collaborative effort to improve the management of vehicle fleets, including examination of the infrastructure for fleet management within each bureau, the identification of best practices that could be used Department-wide, and the development of action plans to improve fleet management and realize cost savings.

While the Service will continue to pursue fleet management options in FY 2006 that will include reducing the size of the fleet and disposing of under-utilized vehicles, the replacement of high mileage vehicles and obsolete heavy construction equipment will be required to ensure the overall efficiency and safety of the National Park Service fleet and the stewardship of its facilities.

Replacement of emergency vehicles and equipment will protect the Service's infrastructure investment and improve visitor protection and safety. The Service's total vehicular, heavy mobile and other operations equipment replacement backlog as documented in the Project Management Information System is currently estimated at over $120 million. Like all government agencies, NPS is working to control this backlog by reducing the size of its vehicle fleet.

Conversion to Narrowband Radio Systems: $12.527 million
In conformity with provisions contained in the Omnibus Budget Reconciliation Act of 1993, the National Telecommunications and Information Administration (NTIA), U.S. Department of Commerce, has directed conversion of all Federal radio users to a new technology known as "narrowband". The transition to narrowband equipment is intended to double the number of channels available to Federal users. Accordingly, those that are currently being denied access to wireless communications support (due to frequency congestion) will be accommodated when the transition is accomplished. In an effort to minimize the delay in achieving full conversion, those networks that are to be transitioned after FY 2005 will be funded through this program and augmented as necessary by other NPS fund sources such as the Recreation Fee Program.

To meet new national interoperability, privacy and security requirements for public safety communications, encrypted digital radio technology is required for all public safety communications. The combination

of requirements for Federal public safety organizations to utilize narrowband and digital technology requires complete replacement of all wireless equipment components; modification of existing components to meet the new requirements is not possible. Application of the technology requires new or updated needs assessments, sensitivity to issues surrounding the implementation and a complete re-engineering of existing networks that cover a large geographic area.

All new radio equipment must be compatible with the technology mandated by NTIA for all Federal users and security directives. The new system will:

- Improve the quality of public safety and law enforcement communications,
- Provide interoperability with other Federal agencies,
- Replace antiquated, failing communications equipment,
- Meet Federal telecommunications security standards,
- Offer better public safety services to park visitors,
- Present opportunities for sharing frequency, fiscal and physical assets among the bureaus of the Department of the Interior, and
- Provide increased security for protecting the Nation's treasures against adverse activities.

The National Park Service is completing development of a Servicewide Capital Asset Plan for making a large-scale investment in new narrowband radio equipment in a cost-effective manner. The plan will maximize the use of other Departmental and commercially available communications resources, avoid redundancy, ensure interoperability with other public safety systems, and place highest priority on transition funding for the public safety communication networks of the U.S. Park Police and other NPS field areas where frequencies are most congested, or where communications resources are most inadequate, placing public and employee safety at greatest risk.

There are over 5,000 radio frequency assignments on over 300 radio systems in the National Park Service, most of them critical for public safety, park resource management, fire suppression, search and rescue missions, and park administration. A Servicewide inventory of all radio equipment as to type, remoteness of facilities and operational needs, and an assessment of park staffing that requires the radios was first conducted in 1998 and again in 2002 to determine field requirements and to forecast replacement costs.

Most of the existing National Park Service radio communications systems are out of compliance with applicable technological standards in the regulations of the NTIA and are unable to meet current network channel access demand and related communications service-area requirements. This requires a complete reassessment process and reconfiguration of all technological and supporting physical assets. This reassessment process will employ an open architecture that will permit technology upgrades and expansion of the systems to meet changed operational requirements. An ongoing assessment of field conditions and implementation of the new technology in the Washington, D.C., area has revealed shortfalls in the existing system in areas patrolled by the United States Park Police in Washington, D.C., New York City and San Francisco. The Washington, D.C. system must have the capability to provide access to other National Park Service activities in the Washington Metropolitan Operational Area. Engineering services to assess the requirements, develop a technology solution, acquire the equipment, place it in service and conduct acceptance tests will be a two-year implementation process for large networks such as these.

Of a total of 256 conversion projects (some of which include multiple systems), during FY 2003 and 2004, 87 projects were initiated including all 66 classified as high priority conversions; of those, 4 projects were completed. In FY 2005, 125 conversions are projected to be underway including 42 new starts; of those, 67 are projected to be completed. In FY 2006, the Service projects 82 conversions to be underway including 22 new starts; of those, 24 are expected to be completed, including 18 high priority projects. 125 remaining conversions are projected to be started after FY 2006.

For FY 2006, the Narrowband Radio Conversion Program is reduced from its FY 2005 level of funding to reflect the progress made thus far in the conversion of systems in the highest priority areas. While this reduction will extend completion of the full program into FY 2009, all of the highest priority projects will be still be completed as currently scheduled. Additional funding that may be needed for non-priority conversions will be provided from Recreation Fee receipts.

Within the amount requested for FY2006, the Service will apply funds to participate in the Departmental Wireless Public SAFEty Interoperable COMmunications Program (SAFECOM). The nation's public safety wireless communications infrastructure is not equipped to meet the challenges that arise in emergency situations, primarily as a result of interoperability. SAFECOM provides a government-wide approach to help local, Tribal, State and Federal public safety agencies improve interoperable wireless communications. SAFECOM is working with existing Federal communications initiatives and key public safety stakeholders to develop better technologies and processes for the cross-jurisdictional and cross-disciplinary coordination of existing systems and future networks. This Department of Homeland Security initiative is intended to improve first-responder capability among all participating Federal bureaus during national emergencies. The Service's contribution to the program for FY 2006 is $0.756 million.

Modernization of Information Resources Equipment: $0.986 million
For FY 2006, the Service will continue to improve its management of information and related business practices. Funds will be used to continue strengthening the Service's IT infrastructure and IT security, including protection of the NPS public-accessible web servers and to continue equipment replacement at the park and regional level as they comply with the standard PC platforms established for the implementation of Active Directory throughout the Service. This replacement approach will aid the overall IT security of the NPS network as older, less secure equipment is replaced with PCs capable of running the newer Microsoft operating system with its integrated security features as required by the Department's IT Architecture. The funds will also enable the Service to implement the Active Directory more efficiently. An increase in this program will enable the Service to keep pace with mounting demands for more efficient, secure, and economical data processing equipment throughout the National Park System. The funds only represent about 10% of the funds needed annually to modernize NPS's IT equipment. The funds necessary to meet remaining needs come from park, Regional, and program funding sources.